IN THE CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A tote for carrying and transporting a bottle or bottles, the tote comprises:

a front panel defining a right side, a left side, a bottom, and a top terminal edge; and

a rear panel defining a right side, a left side, a bottom, and a top terminal edge, the rear panel being secured to the front panel along at least the right side, the left side and the bottom terminal edges, the front and rear panels defining a pocket therebetween, wherein at least one of the front and rear panels are fabricated from an elastic, insulative, impact absorbent material, and wherein the tote has a substantially flattened condition when no bottle is disposed in the pocket thereof.

2. The tote according to claim 1, wherein the front and rear panels are fabricated from neoprene.

3. The tote according to claim 2, wherein the front and rear panels have a thickness of between about 3mm to about 5mm.

4. The tote according to claim 2, wherein the neoprene is sandwiched between layers of stretch nylon.

5. The tote according to claim 4, wherein the bottom terminal edges of the front and rear panels are arcuate when the tote is in the flattened condition.

6. The tote according to claim 5, wherein when a bottle is at least partially inserted into the opening between the front and rear panels, the arcuate bottom terminal edge thereof flattens.

7. The tote according to claim 6, wherein the front and rear panels are secured to one another by at least one of stitching, adhering, welding, and stapling.

8. The tote according to claim 7, wherein at least one of the front and rear panels includes an aperture formed therein.

9. The tote according to claim 8, wherein the upper terminal edges of the front and rear panels are arcuate.

10. The tote according to claim 9, wherein the front panel and the rear panel are secured to one another along a contact line positioned between the right side terminal edges and the left side terminal edges thereof.

11. The tote according to claim 10, wherein the contact line divides the pocket between the front and rear panels into a first pocket and a second pocket.

12. The tote according to claim 11, wherein the bottom terminal edges of each of the front and rear panels is scalloped, wherein a first lobe of the bottom terminal edge is in operative association with the first pocket and a second lobe of the bottom terminal edge is in operative association with the second pocket.

13. The tote according to claim 12, further comprising:

a third panel defining a right side, a left side, a bottom, and a top terminal edge;

wherein the right side terminal edge of the front panel is secured to the left side terminal edge of the rear panel, and a portion of the bottom terminal edge of the front panel is secured to the bottom terminal edge of the rear panel;

wherein the right side terminal edge of the rear panel is secured to the left side terminal edge of the third panels, and a portion of the bottom terminal edge of the rear panel is secured to a portion of the bottom terminal edge of the third panel; and

wherein the right side terminal edge of the third panel is secured to the left side terminal edge of the front panel, and a portion of the bottom terminal edge of the third panel is secured to a portion of the bottom terminal edge of the front panel.

14. The tote according to claim 13, wherein the front, rear and third panels are secured to one another along a contact line substantially centrally located between the right and left side terminal edges of each of the front, the rear and the third panels.

15. The tote according to claim 12, comprising:

a first front panel defining a right side, a left side, a bottom, and a top terminal edge;

a first rear panel defining a right side, a left side, a bottom, and a top terminal edge, the first rear panel being secured to the first front panel along at least the right side, the left side and the bottom terminal edges, the first front and first rear panels being secured to one another along a first contact line positioned between the right side terminal edges and the left side terminal edges thereof, wherein the first contact line defines a first pocket and a second pocket between the first front panel and the first rear panel, wherein

the bottom terminal edges of each of the first front and first rear panels is scalloped, wherein a first lobe of the bottom terminal edge is in operative association with the first pocket and a second lobe of the bottom terminal edge is in operative association with the second pocket;

a second front panel defining a right side, a left side, a bottom, and a top terminal edge; and

a second rear panel defining a right side, a left side, a bottom, and a top terminal edge, the second rear panel being secured to the second front panel along at least the right side, the left side and the bottom terminal edges, the second front and second rear panels being secured to one another along a second contact line positioned between the right side terminal edges and the left side terminal edges thereof, wherein the second contact line defines a third pocket and a fourth pocket between the second front panel and the second rear panel, wherein the bottom terminal edges of each of the second front and second rear panels is scalloped, wherein a first lobe of the bottom terminal edge is in operative association with the third pocket and a second lobe of the bottom terminal edge is in operative association with the fourth pocket, wherein the first contact line is secured to the second contact line.

16. The tote according to claim 15, further comprising:

a tote strap for selectively engaging the tote, the tote strap including:

a hook member for selectively engaging a support structure; and

a loop extending from the hook member, the loop having sufficient length to be fed through the hand hold of the tote and for the hook member to then be fed through the loop.

17. A tote for carrying and transporting a bottle or bottles, the tote comprises:

a front panel defining a perimetral edge; and

a rear panel defining a perimetral edge, the front panel being secured to the rear panel along at least a portion of the perimetral edge so as to define a pocket therebetween and an opening into the pocket, wherein the front and rear panels are fabricated from an elastic, insulative, impact absorbent material.

18. The tote according to claim 17, wherein the front and rear panels are fabricated from neoprene laminated between two layers of stretch nylon.

19. The tote according to claim 18, wherein the front and rear panels are secured to one another along a contact line extending in a direction orthogonal to the opening, wherein the contact line divides the pocket into a first and a second pocket, wherein the terminal edge opposite the opening is scalloped such that each of the first and second pockets is in operative association with a lobe of the scalloped terminal edge.

20. A carrier for transporting a bottle or bottles, the carrier comprises:

a tote having a non-rigid front and rear panel secured to one another along a right side terminal edge, a left side terminal edge and a bottom terminal edge to thereby define a pocket having an open top, wherein a contact line is provided between the right side

terminal edge and the left side terminal edge to divide the pocket into a first and a second pocket, wherein the bottom terminal edge is scalloped such that each of the first and second pockets is in operative association with a lobe of the scalloped bottom terminal edge, wherein the tote is fabricated from neoprene.